

David Stuart and Daniel Carroll, Commissioners to Thomas Jefferson, December 5, 1792, from Thomas Jefferson and the National Capital. Edited by Saul K. Padover.

Commissioners to Jefferson COMMISSRS. TO MR. JEFFERSON

George-Town 5th Decr. 1792.

Sir/

We have now to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, enclosing to us the Presidents order on the Treasurer of Virginia for the second Instalment due from that State — The Plans are also received, & we shall have them distributed for sale immediately at the price you have rated them — We beg you to inform the President, that we shall take into mature consideration at our next meeting, the several matters, mentioned by him, particularly that respecting an Agent for conducting the sale of lots in the different States as soon as Mr. Blodget shall have submitted to us, his plan — Our conversation with him on this subject was but short, but approving of the Idea, we mentioned it to the President at his request to give him an opportunity of explaining himself more fully — From this conversation we were led to expect he would have submitted to the Presidents consideration some digested plan on the subject — We are sorry to inform you that there has not only been a great want of punctuality

among those who purchased at the first sale, in their second payments, but even among those who were purchasers at the last, of their first advance — They have all been written to pressingly — We have received a letter from Mr. Mullikin, offering to set up a mill for cutting stone — We shall postpone answering it, till we are informed of the result of your

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enquiries respecting it — We have not an opportunity of consulting the Encyclopedie Methodique but think it probable that Mr. Hallet's design of that kind, which he has shewed us is derived from that source — We have equal discouragement to our attempts to procure Mechanics from Scotland, with what Mr. Van Staphorts letter presents us & have consequently, just reasons to fear a poor progress next Spring — A Mr. Thornton of Philadelphia informs us he has a plan of a Capitol to send us, as we expect by our next meeting Mr. Hallet's plan will be ready to send on to the President we have desired him to lay his before you, for the President's Inspection, in the first place, that he may have an opportunity, of judging of their comparative merits — We are happy to inform you that the outlines of the territory are nearly compleated, and that Mr. Ellicott,

informs us we shall have it in our power next month of sending in our report, to the President on this subject — We are &c

Signed)

Dd Stuart

Danl Carroll

[P. 127, COMMISSIONERS' LETTERBOOK, Vol. I, 1791–1793, in the National Archives; pp. 239–40, U. S. v. SMITH.]